

Summary Action of Board of Police Commissioners.

THE DECISION A SURPRISE

Evidence Offered at the Meeting Last Night. Policemen Found Guilty of Beating Thomas Baynes With a Pistol.

The Board of Police Commissioners last night dismissed Police Officer W. T. Webb from the force, on the charge of clubbing without provocation Mr. Thomas Baynes, foreman for Honan & Sons, on October 4th, the day the battleship Illinois was launched.

It will be recalled that Officer Webb arrested Mr. Baynes on the charge of resisting an officer, which charge was dismissed by Justice Brown. The next day on the fourteenth of October, Mr. Baynes preferred this charge before the board.

That on the 4th of October, 1898, on Washington avenue, in the said city, the said W. T. Webb unlawfully and without cause or excuse, with a club beat the said Mr. Baynes on the head and face, inflicting wounds on his head and body, and that he is not a fit man to be a police officer, guardian of the peace in the said city of Newport News.

The case was set for last night, when a special meeting was held for its consideration, with President M. V. D. Doughty, Commissioner J. M. Wilson and W. C. Stuart, the remaining members of the board, present.

Mr. Baynes was the first witness. He testified that he was the overseer of a gang of men employed on the wharves by Mr. Honan & Sons. On the day in question he sat down on a pile of pipe on Washington avenue, opposite Hopkins drug store, and fell asleep.

Officer Webb came up and shook him violently and told him that he wanted him. Witness asked him what for and the officer said, for lounging on the street and stirring up trouble with him. He explained to the officer that he was the foreman of a gang of men working upon the street, whereupon the officer, after verifying this statement, released him with an injunction not to go asleep on the street again.

Mr. Baynes followed officer Webb down the street, and saw him meet another timekeeper, opposite Kline's drug store. He heard him tell the timekeeper that he had found Baynes asleep and said that he then called the officer a "lout," whereupon Webb struck him over the head with his billy several times knocking him senseless.

Mr. Terry Malloy, the timekeeper, was next interrogated. His evidence was practically the same as that of Mr. Baynes, so far as it related to what occurred in his (Malloy's) presence.

George Conway, clerk in Hopkins' drug store, saw the encounter between the officer and Mr. Baynes, but did not see the second, or, at least, did not see the clubbing, on account of the crowd gathered around the interested parties. He saw, however, that the officer struck him over the head with his billy several times knocking him senseless.

Officer Webb testified in his own behalf, saying that on the day of the launching he found Mr. Baynes sitting on a pile of several pipes against a side wall, and that he saw the officer strike him over the head with his billy several times knocking him senseless.

Officer J. E. Gray testified that he had had considerable trouble with men sleeping on the sidewalk and that he had spoken to them about it, some of them were very abusive.

WISER AND OTHERWISE.

A Letter From Mr. Holland Regarding an Attempted Bluff.

There is a noticeable and painful lack of "confidence" in the Wise and Holland Republican factions since the Young-Montague meeting the other night. It did not develop aggressively in the ranks of the former until after the Wise meeting Thursday night. The frost which attended Thursday seems to have blighted the last hope of the district, and yesterday at least one radical Wise man hedged on a bet he had made some weeks ago and refused to make any sort of a bet whatever with a man who was anxiously looking for a Wise bluff.

The attempted bluff worked on the doctor's Republican opponent, Mr. W. S. Holland, also failed to prove effective, and this, too, is a reason for a certain feeling of sadness and longing that is very much to be regretted.

Holland has made a statement in connection with this statement is published for the benefit of the Wise men, and run through the district.

"Last week several papers published what purported to come from Dr. It. A. Wise to the effect that the President of the United States had sent for Hon. Patrick A. McGee and several others prominent in the councils of the Republican party, and after the 'riot act' had been read to them, they promised to take Holland down.

"As no word had ever suggested or intimated to me, except the newspapers, of this world, that I ought to come down, I waited a day or two, and up to this time I had had no such intimation from any source. After this waiting I wired, or wrote, to each of the gentlemen named by Dr. Wise as having promised to take me down, except General Allen, and from each I received a reply in my own handwriting, emphatically denying the truth of the publication or denies any knowledge of any such thing. It did seem to me that the exalted position of the President, as universally accorded to him, would be a sufficient refutation of the publication, but after hearing that the publication was being industriously circulated, I decided to repeat in public speeches I decided to repeat in public speeches I decided to repeat in public speeches.

"The City of Newport News, a committee will hold a special meeting to-night in the office of the city engineer, to consider and make final arrangements for the election of a Congressman next Tuesday. There is no doubt about Young's election and members of the committee will have little work to do on the day of election.

SECOND ANNUAL GRAND BALL.

Newport News Social Bicycle Club Entertains at the Casino.

The Newport News Social Bicycle Club entertained upwards of two hundred guests at the Casino last night on the occasion of its second grand annual ball. No expense was spared by the committee on arrangements and everything necessary for a pleasant evening was manifest when the ball opened.

The grand march was gracefully led by Mr. Archie Clements, who acted as floor manager and emcee, and a very big time was consumed with introductions and social preliminaries.

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DISTINGUISHED PARTY

Mr. C. P. Huntington and Friends Arrive in the City.

TO REMAIN OVER SUNDAY

Accompanied by Some Notable Englishmen and Several English Friends.

Mr. Collis P. Huntington, owner of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, and his wife, arrived in the city yesterday morning.

Mr. Huntington, who is a distinguished business and social leader, arrived in the city yesterday morning, accompanied by some notable Englishmen and several English friends.

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SERVICES AT THE CHURCHES.

Announcement of Subjects of Sermons and the Hours Observed.

Rev. E. A. Shenk, the new Lutheran minister who has just arrived in the city from Waynesboro, to assume the pastorate of the congregation will preach his initial sermon in this city Sunday morning, at Moss Hall, on Twenty-eighth street. The services will begin at 11 o'clock, and the evening service will begin at 7:30. The congregation will use this hall for the regular services, and the hours mentioned above will be observed until further notice.

Newport Baptist Church, Twenty-ninth street, Rev. C. C. Cox, pastor, will preach Sunday morning, at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. morning subject taken from the book of Isaiah, Chapter 40, verse 31, "They shall not be weary in well-doing." Evening subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Young People's Society, Tuesday evening, at 7:30 o'clock; prayer meeting every Wednesday.

Second Baptist church, Orcutt avenue, Rev. T. J. Mackay, pastor, will preach Sunday morning, at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. morning subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Evening subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Young People's Society, Tuesday evening, at 7:30 o'clock; prayer meeting every Wednesday.

First Presbyterian church, Twenty-seventh street, Rev. A. W. Crawford, pastor, will preach Sunday morning, at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. morning subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Evening subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Young People's Society, Tuesday evening, at 7:30 o'clock; prayer meeting every Wednesday.

Washington Avenue Methodist M. E. church, Rev. R. F. Lipscomb, pastor, will preach Sunday morning, at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. morning subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Evening subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Young People's Society, Tuesday evening, at 7:30 o'clock; prayer meeting every Wednesday.

Chestnut Avenue M. E. church, Rev. M. S. Colonna, pastor, Sunday School, 10 A. M.; preaching, 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. morning subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Evening subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Young People's Society, Tuesday evening, at 7:30 o'clock; prayer meeting every Wednesday.

St. Paul's church, Twenty-fifth street, Rev. J. P. Riddle, pastor, will preach Sunday morning, at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. morning subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Evening subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Young People's Society, Tuesday evening, at 7:30 o'clock; prayer meeting every Wednesday.

St. Vincent's Catholic church, Washington avenue, Rev. Father Donahue, pastor, will preach Sunday morning, at 10 o'clock A. M. and 7:30 P. M. morning subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Evening subject, "The Kingdom of God is within you." Young People's Society, Tuesday evening, at 7:30 o'clock; prayer meeting every Wednesday.

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DISASTER AT SEA

Clyde Line Steamer Afire, Is Lost Near Cape Charles.

FIVE GO DOWN TO DEATH

Croatan's Captain a Hero. Stood by His Passengers and Ship to the Last.

A mysterious explosion in the cargo hold of the Clyde Line steamer Croatan, which was bound for Norfolk, N. C., and Georgetown, S. C., resulted in the death of five persons.

The disaster occurred on November 1, about 100 miles north of Cape Charles and about 200 miles from New York, from which port the steamer sailed on October 31 with a general cargo and eight passengers.

The Croatan was in the afternoon the last of the Clyde Line fleet, and was burning black smoke, and the ship was sinking rapidly. The captain, James Curtis, stood by his passengers and ship to the last.

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SPAIN REFUSES

To Accept the American Proposition—The Revolution Was Expected.

PARIS, Nov. 4.—The Spanish commissioners, in the course of a two hours session of the peace conference today, have refused to accept the proposition made last night by the Americans to take the entire Philippine group, to reimburse Spain for her "facile" expenditures there. This negative decision was expected.

OVATION FOR MARIA TERESA.

Norfolk Will Celebrate Her Arrival With a Demonstration. (By Telegraph.) NORFOLK, VA., Nov. 4.—The Board of Trade and Business Men's Association have taken up the proposition to give the Maria Teresa a magnificent ovation on her arrival in Hampton Roads. The day will be made a general holiday in mercantile and shipping circles and daily decorated craft of every description will constitute the reception.

CONSTRUCTOR STALL, of the Norfolk navy yard, flatly contradicts the private press dispatch sent from this city to the effect that the Maria Teresa could not be docked at the yard. The Marine constructor, who is in charge of the ship, which drew twelve inches of water, was docked here successfully, September 26th, 1897. He says he can put the Teresa and a torpedo boat in the same dock and will find enough room for them to work around it.

PAYS THE DEATH PENALTY. Robert Morton, colored, Murderer of Geo. H. Westmoreland, Hanged. (By Telegraph.) PETERSBURG, VA., Nov. 4.—Robert Morton, the negro who, in a drunken frenzy, murdered George H. Westmoreland at West End Park in this city last June 25th, was hanged in the jail yard here today. He possessed religion and displayed much courage and self-possession on the gallows.

REV. DR. HOGE INJURED. His Buggy Struck an Electric Car—Thrown Out and Painfully Bruised. (Special to The Daily Press.) NEW YORK, N. Y., Nov. 4.—Rev. Dr. Hoge's buggy was struck by an electric car and overturned. He received a cut on the forehead and was painfully bruised and shaken up. The buggy, moreover, is now disabled, but they are not thought serious.

CRUISE DETECTIVES J. B. Heck and C. A. Locke, of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Company, made another raid on the tramps at Toms yesterday. They succeeded in "bagging" ten, all of which were taken to Williamsburg and locked up.

The Chesapeake & Ohio has adopted a perfect system to break up the freight train riders and reception parties are in waiting at various stations between Richmond and Newport News to wait on the freight trains.

The Chesapeake & Ohio's crusade against tramps has by no means ceased, and Railway Detective J. B. Heck will go out again today and search for the tramps in the shape of weary Willie.

It has developed that the professional tramps are not the only ones that make a practice of using the roof of freight trains as a place of refuge. Every Saturday night, a number of men working in the city take the freight cars for Richmond, where they have relatives, and they go to bed in the cars.

His Money Is Here. Mr. John A. H. Armstrong died at his home on Princess Anne avenue yesterday, aged 79 years. In many respects Mr. Armstrong was a very strange man. He was a native of New York, and came to Norfolk about forty years ago. Since the war he has lived here and was known as a pension agent by occupation. He had money, but cared little for the things it would buy. He was rather more of a hermit than miser. While he saved his money he did not appear to worship it. He had no confidence in men and trusted few of them.

Some days ago the police were informed that an old man was sick at a house on Princess Anne avenue, and in destitute circumstances. The man proved to be Mr. Armstrong. He was taken to the hospital, where he remained in his dilapidated quarters from choice, although he had money to pay for a better one. He owned a farm in Princess Anne county, Norfolk Virginia.

Did Not Get His Man. Officer Louis Werner, of the Richmond police force, arrived here yesterday with a warrant for Henry Coleman, a negro housebreaker. The Richmond officer came in response to a letter from the chief of police, who was told that his man had been turned over to the Newport News police. Last night he returned to his chief empty-handed and disappointed. Coleman is wanted for three separate offenses in Richmond, housebreaking, larceny and severely beating a woman. He will be called to answer these charges when the police of this city are through with him.

COMES HERE TO CAOL

Such is the Report Concerning the New York.

WILL THEN AWAIT ORDERS

Commander Phillips to Be on Board. Other Vessels of North Atlantic Squadron Will Be Gathered in Hampton Roads. Sailors Like Climate.

(By Telegraph.) WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—It is said at the Navy Department that the New York, flagship of the North Atlantic Squadron, will proceed from New York to Newport News as soon as she is provisioned and supplied. The vessel will then wait for orders.

Commander Phillips, commanding the North Atlantic station during Admiral Sampson's absence, will be aboard the New York. Probably other vessels of the squadron will be gathered in the Roads in view of the fact that this is a capital place, strategically, for the dispatch of a flying squadron in any direction at short notice. It is said at the Navy Department that this move is also in conformity with the usual winter policy of the department, but a warmer climate of Virginia making the sailors more comfortable aboard ship than they would be in the North.

It was also stated that there is at present no intention of dispatching ships to Cuba in addition to those already there.

AGUINALDO'S RIVAL. MANILA, P. I., Nov. 4.—It is reported here that the priests are instigating a faction to support the bolshie, a bitter opponent of Aguinaldo. The increasing dissensions among the insurgents are diminishing the probability of the latter opposing the Americans.

CONSIDERED DANGEROUS. The Condition of the Central Engine House. The condition of the central engine house, at the corner of Twenty-eight street and Jefferson avenue, is so bad that the city engineers are considering the advisability of demolishing it. The house is a fire trap and is a danger to the city.

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